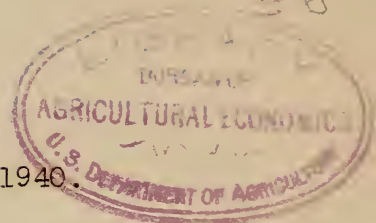


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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Agricultural Marketing Service
Washington, D.C.

November 9, 1940.



MEMORANDUM FOR DIVISION AND SECTION LEADERS AND
FIELD OFFICES OF THE AGRICULTURAL MARKETING SERVICE.

Subject: Information on Defense and Agriculture

This administrative communication brings to you an important statement of principle dealing with the relation of agriculture to national defense. Please read it carefully.

I am attaching a copy of a memorandum from Secretary Wickard which transmits a statement by the Agricultural Commissioner of the National Defense Advisory Council, Mr. Chester C. Davis.

This memorandum is the first in a "Defense and Agriculture Series" which you will receive at frequent intervals from now on. Others to follow will bring you facts about progress of phases of the defense programs which affect agriculture and about progress of the agricultural part in the defense programs. In the next few weeks you will receive in this series of Secretarial memoranda (1) a brief analysis of the part of all Department of Agriculture programs in national defense with special attention to the part of our own program in the total defense effort; (2) a report on the present and probable future effects on agriculture of war in the Old World and defense program in the United States; (3) facts about the agricultural and other problems of our neighbor nations in South and Central America which will influence the Inter-American hemispheric defense program; (4) facts about the national drive for better nutrition which is now being cooperatively prepared by this Department, the State Extension Services, and the Consumer Commissioner of the National Defense Advisory Commission.

Now, as to the use of this file of information on agriculture and defense which will be provided you:

First, please inform yourselves thoroughly by reading and studying the documents and reports that will be sent to you.

Second, these materials are for your information, not for press release purposes. But the facts that you will receive in this series are facts that all farm people and all those interested in marketing farm products will now have to take into consideration

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in dealing with their problems. These facts, therefore, will have a definite place in your discussions with farm people and other persons.

Third, those of you who are requested to speak before meetings of farm groups, trade organizations, civic groups, etc., may use the information contained in this file on defense and agriculture in your talks.

In short, this Service and the Department are going to provide you with accurate and fairly detailed information about the developing program of national defense as it relates to agriculture. All of us are eager to have this information. The citizens whom we serve want this information. You may pass it on to them.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "C. W. Kitchen".

Chief.

